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# The Highlander

Thursday **March 27 2025** | Issue 682


**INSIDE: MINDEN ON ICE PAGE 21**

**FREE**

**Glassblowing at HSAD**

Will Bowyer glass blowing his creative new piece in the glassblowing studio. See more on page 15. *Photo by Justin Belanger.*

# Schmale touts focus on housing, trades

**By Mike Baker**

With a snap federal election just 32 days away, Jamie Schmale, three-time MP and the Conservative candidate in the re-jigged Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes riding, said his party will prioritize investing in housing, natural resources, and the trades to bolster Canada's economy.

With Liberal prime minister Mark Carney, on March 23, calling an election for April 28, Schmale said it's been a whirlwind few days as he prepares to launch his re-election campaign. He was previously elected to office in 2015, 2019, and 2021.

As of press time, he's the only declared candidate for the riding.

"I think it was a smart move for the Liberals to call an election in such a short period of time… I think Canadians have been wanting an election to help give some certainty dealing with the United States," Schmale told *The Highlander* March 25.

Asked about the near $60 billion in tariffs the Liberal government has imposed on the U.S. as a response to president Donald Trump's threats to impose additional 25 per cent charges on all Canadian imports, Schmale feels Canada is stuck between a rock and a hard place.

"We would like to see a normalization of this relationship. I think it's damaged right now... it probably has been forever damaged," Schmale said.

He believes the answer is breaking down inter-provincial trade barriers and developing new agreements with other countries, saying the Conservatives would

Continued **'Canada'** on page 2

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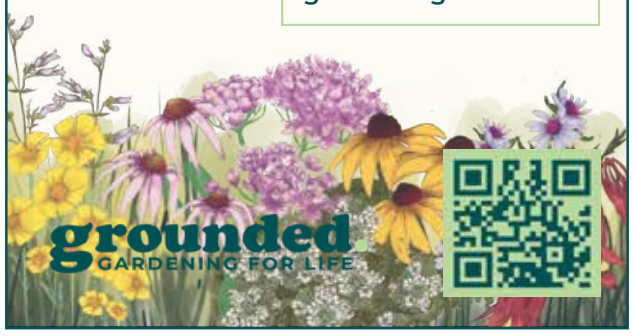

MP Jamie Schmale is seeking a fourth term in office. *File*

## 'Canada is never going to become 51st state'

Continued from page 1

like to revive the Northern Gateway and Energy East pipeline projects to ensure Canadian oil and gas can be sold and shipped to Europe and Asia.

Schmale said a Conservative government led by Pierre Poilievre would continue to stand up to Trump.

"For me, Canada is never going to become the 51st state. We will fight with everything we have to ensure that does not happen," he said.

### Election promises

With the Conservatives promising to reduce income tax rates for Canada's lower and middle class, Schmale said the savings would equate to about $1,800 a year for most families.

If elected, he said a motion to reduce the lowest income tax bracket rate from 15 to 12.75 per cent would be tabled "as soon as we can get it out", likely during 2026 budget deliberations. It will be funded through right-sizing government, he said, with the Conservatives planning a review of staffing levels across all departments.

Schmale added the Conservatives would "axe the [carbon] tax completely," going one step above Carney, who last week said the Liberals would scrap consumer-facing charges but maintain taxes for industry.

He said housing has to be a priority, with the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation estimating 3.5 million homes need to be built by 2030 to restore affordability and address the current housing gap.

"We still have a housing crisis. We've had 10 years now where house prices have gotten out of control for many people… it's beyond time for action. We have talked about selling off federal buildings to turn into affordable housing, about incentivizing municipalities to accelerate building permits, about removing the sales tax on the construction of new homes.

"Another side of this is looking at increasing our labour pool. We have a severe shortage in the skilled trades, so we need to put some focus there, on training more workers," Schmale said.

Last week, Poilievre announced plans to offer apprenticeship grants up to $4,000, fund training halls for skills development for up to 350,000 workers over five years, and work with provinces to harmonize health and safety regulations to allow tradespeople to work anywhere in Canada.

Asked if he would support a trades school coming to Haliburton County, something Dysart mayor Murray Fearrey and others have long advocated for, Schmale said, "if there is demand to expand to Haliburton, absolutely, I would support that."

In 2021, Schmale secured 52 per cent of the riding's vote, ahead of Judi Forbes (Liberal, 23 per cent), Zac Miller (NDP, 14 per cent), Alison Davidson (People's Party, seven per cent), Angel Godsoe (Greens, 2.5 per cent), and Gene Balfour (Libertarian, 0.68 per cent).

The Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes Liberal Association, NDP Canada, and Green Party of Canada did not respond to questions as of press time.

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# Townships to 'wait and see' on tariffs

**By Mike Baker**

Dysart et al mayor Murray Fearrey said he's waiting to see what U.S. president Donald Trump does with proposed 25 per cent tariffs on Canadian imports before worrying about the potential impacts in Haliburton County.

Measures proposed by Trump in January are on hold until April 2, with the U.S. president, new Canadian prime minister Mark Carney, and Ontario premier Doug Ford embroiled in a public game of tit-for-tat involving retaliatory tariffs and counter threats.

Since March 4, Canada has instituted 25 per cent tariffs on $30 billion of U.S. goods, with another $29.8 billion pending. Fearrey believes the federal government is playing a dangerous game.

"The more we retaliate, I think the more he's going to reciprocate," Fearrey said. "It's a dangerous game. There's 340 million people in the U.S. and about 40 million in Canada – we rely on them for a lot of things we use every day – a prolonged trade war would only hurt us."

He said the biggest issue for the township would be on major vehicle purchases, with most heavy-duty trucks and equipment imported from the U.S. For those, Dysart would be dinged by the Canadian government's counter tariffs.

"It's going to hurt if, all of a sudden, we're having to pay an extra 25 per cent for every vehicle purchase we need to make," Fearrey said.

Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter agreed, noting municipalities are already stretched thin.

"Costs have gone up so much over the last few years, it's a bit mind boggling to begin with," he said.

Spring is usually a busy time for municipalities, with staff working to send projects approved during recent budget discussions to tender.

Dysart et al mayor Murray Fearrey fears tariffs will have a big impact in Haliburton County. *File.*

> *A prolonged trade war would only hurt us.*
>
> ***Murray Fearrey***

Carter said Minden Hills has lots of RFPs out right now, mainly for construction projects, that aren't being picked up.

"It's really difficult to say what will happen. Any time there's economic uncertainty, people play their cards close to the vest. The thing I fear most is that these RFPs come back and people have put in more of a buffer [costing us more]," he said.

Algonquin Highlands mayor Liz Danielsen didn't want to speculate on what may, or may not, happen. "It's early days to make decisions on an issue that appears to be somewhat of a moving target."

With each township upping taxes between four and six per cent in 2025, Fearrey said he's worried about what the tariffs could do to next year's numbers.

"Everything costs so much more today… in Dysart, we have bridges that are going to cost $1.5 million apiece to do next year, and we have more coming after that. It wasn't that many years ago you'd be able to get grants for $500,000 or $750,000 to help, but those aren't available anymore.

"Unless somebody, somewhere has an idea to change funding for local governments to find more money, we're not going to be able to get out of this mess. It's just going to keep getting worse," Fearrey said.

## U.S. contracts to stay

At the administrative level, County CAO Gary Duke has been working with the CAOs from the four townships, including Highlands East, to prepare for any impacts as best they can.

"We are actively monitoring developments and will be making necessary adjustments to our operational budgets to remain responsive to these changing circumstances.

"We are focusing on procurement issues related to U.S.-based companies and service contracts related to IT, and the purchasing of vehicles necessary for road maintenance and emergency services, as well as the overall price structure for construction projects across the County," Dyke said.

He noted the County and lower-tier townships would not join the likes of Cambridge, On, Leduc in Alberta, and North Vancouver, BC, in closing social media accounts owned by American interests, such as X and Facebook.

There's no appetite either for ending existing agreements with U.S. companies. Last year, the County's four townships signed contracts with Granicus, headquartered in Denver, Colorado but boasting a Canadian arm, for the firm to manage short-term rental applications.

"We recognize the importance of honouring existing contracts with U.S.-based firms that were negotiated and signed in good faith prior to the introduction of these tariffs. Our municipality values the relationships we have built and the mutual benefits these partnerships bring to our local economy," Dyke said, adding staff may approach councils for talks on limiting bids from U.S. companies on certain municipal projects.

"Our goal is to ensure municipal contracts not only support our community, but also align with broader national interests… we are engaging with government officials to explore strategies that prioritize our local and Canadian suppliers."

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# Highlander news

## DYSART ET AL NEWS

### Septic cycle to end

Dysart et al will wrap its septic reinspection program this year, with coordinator Bri Barry saying approximately 450 properties in Harcourt Park will have systems tested over the summer.

Launched in 2017 as a way for the township to track and keep a record of the condition of waterfront septic systems in the community, Barry said it's been a good method for protecting lakes across Dysart, with 4,360 systems tested.

She said pump outs were ordered for systems that had no record of installation, were installed prior to 1980, featured a metal holding tank, or had scum and sludge covering over a third of the tank.

Costs this year will remain consistent with 2024, at $220 per inspection attempt. Barry said notices went out to homeowners within 30 metres of Allen Lake, Big Barnum Lake, East Lake, Straggle Lake, Little Straggle Lake, Charlie George Lake, Kennaway Lake and Long Lake on March 14. Testing will be done from May 20 to Aug. 29.

Barry said staff will also circle back with 37 property owners who were scheduled to have inspections done in previous years. She said 17 of those have been issued with official bylaw infractions, with 20 follow-ups from last year.

Lake health assessments, an add-on through Dysart's site alteration bylaw, will also be done this summer. This is an education-only tool that Barry said ranks homeowners' shorelines based on several environmental factors. Testing will also be completed for people wanting a short-term rental licence.

After this year, Barry said staff will pause the septic reinspection program for two years, giving the department time to catch up on all STR-related inspections. Septic testing will pick up again in 2027.

"That gives us a roughly 10-year cycle for the program – that's a nice, friendly number for property owners so they can plan for that in the future," Barry said.

### Smile for the camera

Councillors heard from Tanner Watt, a municipal program specialist with Local Authority Services, on how automated speed enforcement could be brought to Dysart et al.

Watt said the technology was approved in Ontario in 2017 as a way for municipalities to address speeding in school and community safety zones.

"There are three main pieces of the puzzle to getting a program up and running – physical infrastructure, ticket processing, and adjudication," Watt said, noting that, since 2022, townships have been able to handle appeals in-house rather than be drawn into a lengthy court process.

In February, residents on Wigamog Road petitioned council to establish a community safety zone along a 2.5 kilometre stretch of the road, with council considering the request as well as the possible installation of automated cameras.

Watt said LAS would work with the township to identify problem areas, source, install and calibrate the equipment, take care of all maintenance, and handle ticket processing. While the company doesn't assist with appeals, they will support the municipality by providing data for court dates or support them in setting up an administrative monetary penalty system (AMPS).

Watt said the cost for the cameras is about $3,500 per month, covered by LAS.

"The big picture pricing for this will depend a lot on traffic data," he said, noting LAS typically works on two-year contracts but can run terms as short as six months.

Ticket amounts are set by the *Highway Traffic Act*. Fines would be split between the municipality and LAS, though Watt did not disclose specific amounts.

Council deferred the issue at the call of deputy mayor Walt McKechnie, who wants to wait until the Haliburton Highlands police services board hears a presentation on the technology at its April 2 meeting.

### Election vote

Voters in Dysart et al will have several options to cast a ballot during next year's municipal election.

Following a recommendation from clerk Mallory Bishop, council opted for internet and telephone voting for the poll, taking place Oct. 26, 2026. This will be the second time operating this method after it was used during the 2022 election.

This will be the fifth and final year for Dysart's current septic reinspection program. *File.*

"It worked so well. We had a lot of positive feedback," Bishop told council. "This works well in communities where you have a lot of non-resident voters who will be voting in their primary home area. It's important they're able to access the vote here."

Bishop said advanced polls will begin at least a week prior to the vote and that anyone having trouble voting online or through their phone could cast their ballot in-person at town hall. She expects voting kiosks will again visit Park Lane and Echo Hills apartments, Extendicare, Highland Wood and the Gardens of Haliburton.

Previously, the township utilized mail-in voting for 25 years, with in-person paper ballots last offered in 1997.

### Offer extended

Dysart has extended terms to the owners of Highland Street restaurant Hook, Line and Sinker, who want to build a new second-floor patio overlooking Head Lake.

Last week council heard again from Taylor Pridham, who co-owns the eatery. He asked that council reconsider its position to side with municipal staff in a dispute over the number of additional parking spaces required to facilitate the expansion.

Planning director Jeff Iles said the restaurant would need to secure an additional 23 parking spaces. He said the location has 15 spots on-site and secured 27 spots in the Head Lake Park parking lot across the road, which is owned by the municipality. Iles said an extra 23 spots in the lot can be secured for $46,000.

Pridham argued since the restaurant is only increasing its capacity by six seats, from 144 to 150, that was too much to ask. Iles said the township uses two methods to calculate parking requirements – designate one spot for every nine square metres of floor area, or one spot for every four people who can be legally accommodated at one time. He said the township typically goes with whichever creates more parking, which is floor area.

Fearrey said council couldn't budge on the amount, saying they need to be fair and consistent with all businesses, though offered to spread the cost over three years. Pridham said he was unsure if they'd proceed.

"It's up to you now to make that call," Fearrey said. *(Dysart et al briefs compiled by Mike Baker).*


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**COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON**

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

March 27 – Regular Council Meeting
April 10 – Regular Council Meeting
April 24 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link.

**MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE**

• *We're Still Talking,* an exhibit of fibre works by local artists Sandi Luck, Nadine Papp and Wendy Wood will be on display until May 10 in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery.

• *We Were Taught Differently (Bakaan nake'ii ngii-izhigakinoo'amaagoomin)* an exhibit created by The MUSE (Kenora, Ontario) will be on display from April 1 to June 28 in the Welch Room. The exhibit examines the Indian residential school experience, particularly in the two schools that were in Kenora – Cecilia Jeffrey and St. Mary's.

• A special screening of *Cold Journey* (1975) on April 3 at 1:00pm. Directed by Martin Defalco, this is a poignant drama about Indigenous youth in 1970's Canada. The documentary is provided courtesy of the National Film Board, in partnership with the HCPL – Minden Branch.

For information on all the programs and exhibits offered at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.

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# Highlander news

Andy Mitchell at an in-person community engagement session in Minden Hills. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

## Managing growth key for Minden

**By Lisa Gervais**

Saying "it's the voices of your community," consultant Andy Mitchell, of Arising Collective, delivered a community engagement report to Minden Hills council at its March 13 meeting.

The document will form part of the municipality's strategic plan that is currently underway, CAO Cynthia Fletcher said.

Commenting on a process that saw more than 700 people take part, "was a pretty significant response rate, speaking to the passion of the community for the community," Mitchell said. "This engagement was successful because the people of the community were willing to engage."

> *People feel passionate about Minden Hills, its history, their connection to the community.*
>
> ***Andy Mitchell***

Summarizing key observations, Mitchell said they were told people are the foundation of the community. "It came out in our conversations, people are generous, caring, come together in crisis, and are willing to help each other out. People feel passionate about Minden Hills, its history, their connection to the community, and values of the community."

As the township considers its strategic plan, it must keep those things front and centre, Mitchell said.

He added Arising Collective was told protecting the rural nature of Minden Hills in the face of growth is important. "People live here because it is a rural community, the lifestyle, set of values. People recognize there will be growth and changes, but don't alter the fundamental reality of what community is," he advised council.

The public also spoke to getting over the fear of change and embracing the future. Mitchell said with post-COVID weariness, "there is a tendency to stay with what you know, as opposed to taking a chance on what you don't know." He said the public was clear in saying, "we just need to get on with it."

Mindenites also spoke to the need to revitalize the downtown, to launch a spirit of renewal in the community; and further that, "council needs to both govern and lead the community."

He said ratepayers recognize the township cannot afford to do everything and must prioritize two-to-three things and just start.

In discussing opportunities, Mitchell said four key themes emerged: strengthening the small business, tourism, and local food sectors as a means of creating additional wealth and jobs; return to some things done well in the past; pursuing innovative approaches to community and broader challenges, such as multigenerational housing; and reinvigorating the downtown.

As to where the community wants to go, the consultants summarized what they heard from people.

"Minden Hills wants to build on its natural and built assets as it renews itself in an inclusive and comprehensive manner. Building on the diversity of its residents' talents and through an invigoration of volunteerism, leveraging of social networks, and with the leadership of council, it intends to establish community priorities that address all segments of the community, while contributing to an increased standard of living and a better quality of life. The journey may be long, and it may be challenging, but it needs to begin now."

Coun. Pam Sayne, who sits on the board of ROMA, said some of the challenges residents spoke to them about are shared across regional and rural Ontario.

"Housing, healthcare, internet, transportation, cost of living, food prices." She said she "appreciated we have a creative community here to solve those problems. We need to make sure we are interacting in a way that allows creativity to come forward."

Mayor Bob Carter said doing the community engagement as part of a strategic plan is leading the community.

Fletcher said staff will present a report to council in April recommending the next steps and processes for completing the work to develop a strategic community priority plan.

MY Haliburton HIGHLANDS

**What's Happening in your county...**

**March 27** Cam Galloway - live entertainment - hosted at Hook, Line & Sinker

**March 28** Canned Laughs - Premium Grade Comedy - live entertainment - hosted at Boshkung Social

**March 29** Snowshoe Disc Golf Adventure - experience - hosted at Abbey Gardens

**March 29** Wild Game Dinner & Silent Auction - food - hosted at Haliburton Legion

**March 30** Gary Baumgartner - live entertainment - hosted at The Dominion Hotel

**April 1** Gord Kidd - Rockin' Country - live entertainment - hosted at The Dominion Hotel

**April 5** Doc(k) Day - Haliburton Documentary Film Festival - hosted at the Northern Lights Pavilion

**April 5** Dinner Theatre - Riches and Ransom - hosted by the Loop Troupe Little Theatre in Wilberforce

To see the full listings of events, visit

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# Highlander news

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## ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS NEWS

### No help with fines

An Algonquin Highlands cottager wants the township to cover a $636 hauling bill after saying his vehicle was "unfairly towed" while parked along Big Hawk Lake Road for a week in February.

Kevin Scriver said he's been parking his vehicles on the rural road without issue for over 30 years. He told council March 20 that he arrived at his cottage Feb. 14, stayed two nights, then left for a four-day snowmobiling trip Feb. 17, returning Feb. 21. When back, he found his truck missing and a note informing him it had been towed.

He claims another vehicle was also towed, though a third was left in place.

"This seems like a very unfair practice. There is no angle parking or designated parking area in the winter. This is a municipal road and there are no 'no parking' signs… this road is used by cottagers and tourists for parking when visiting the area," Scriver said.

Mayor Liz Danielsen said, per the *Highway Traffic Act*, the municipality is entitled to have a vehicle towed if it impedes with snow removal operations. The township's bylaw enforcement officer, Greg Moore, said the two vehicles towed were preventing a plow from safely navigating Big Hawk Lake Road, while the third was not.

Moore said the township doesn't have the means to tow vehicles and contracted the service out to Haliburton County and West Guilford Towing and Recovery.

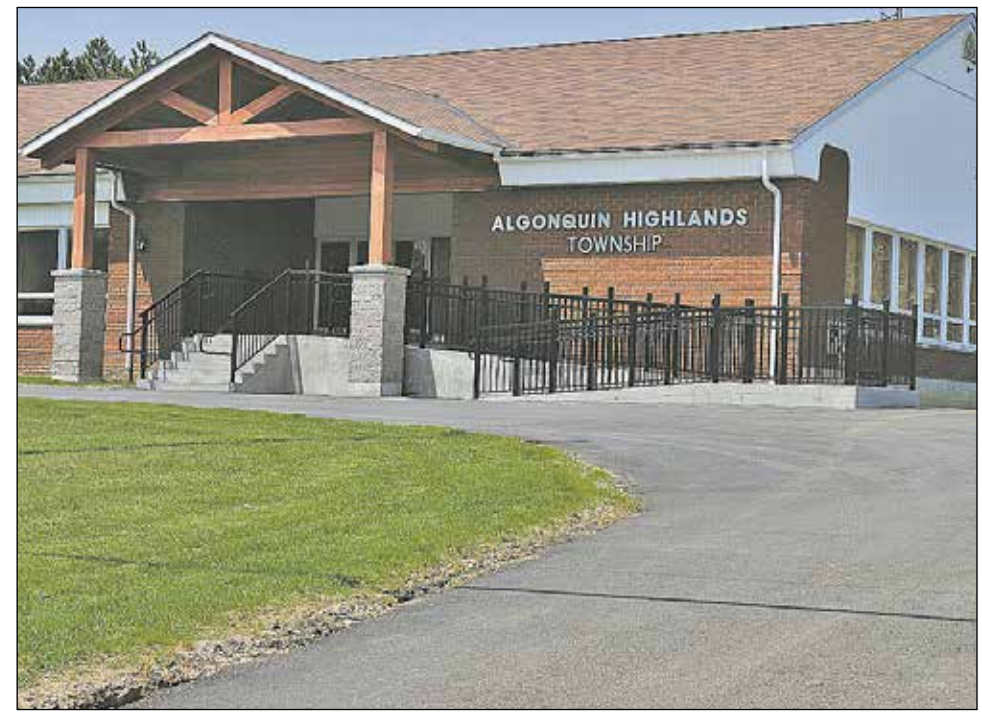
CAO Angie Bird said this was an "unprecedented circumstance, not something we do on a regular basis" but was forced due to a heavy snowfall. She said the vehicles were tagged Feb. 18 and removed Feb. 20. Notices were also posted to the township's social media channels asking residents to keep roadways cleared for plowing.

Scriver said he had never had an issue before and didn't have access to WiFi or a cell reception to see the notices. He also felt the towing bill was high, which deputy mayor Jennifer Dailloux "empathized" with but said was likely due to the distance the tow truck travelled – approximately 54 kilometres. She said there is no tow truck operator located in Algonquin Highlands.

Council denied the request for reimbursement, not wanting to set a precedent. A similar written request from Paul Coffey, who also has a cottage on Big Hawk Lake Road, was also denied.

Danielsen told Scriver the township is working on a long-term parking plan for the area, which she hopes will address the situation and avoid future issues.

"We acknowledge it is problematic in many ways," the mayor said.




Algonquin Highlands council met for a regular meeting March 20. *File.*

### New appeals system

People who receive fines for bylaw infractions in Algonquin Highlands will soon have the chance to dispute charges without having to go to court.

Council has supported implementing a new administrative monetary penalty system (AMPS) for parking offences and people in breach of provincial statutes and municipal bylaws. It replaces the old system where offences were prosecuted under the Provincial Offences Act (POA), which often required multiple court appearances if fought and would take 12 to 18 months to resolve.

Kristen Glass, a bylaw officer with the township, said AMPS utilizes local screening and hearing officers who can modify, cancel or affirm penalties. She said AMPS is a more cost-effective way of dealing with disputes, with the POA system "very lengthy and expensive for the township."

She clarified AMPS will be used for minor things like parking tickets and for some violations with the building and fire code and Environmental Protection Act. Serious matters, or incidents involving repeat offenders, will still go through the courts.

Glass said she expects this will result in some savings for the township, though didn't know how much it would cost to source a hearing officer or how often they would be required. She said Huntsville adopted the system in April 2022 and has issued over 200 penalties since, with three hearings requested.

Huntsville, Gravenhurst and Lake of Bays have a shared services agreement for their programs with a paralegal from Muskoka, with rates ranging from $200 per hour, $275 for a half day, $520 for a full day, or a flat fee of $100 per hearing. Council directed staff to negotiate a deal for the township.

### Put it to the people

Council has opened the door for deputy mayors in Algonquin Highlands to be elected by the public, rather than appointed by sitting members.

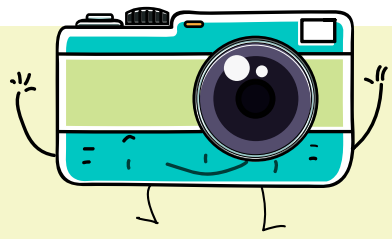
Since 2000, the deputy position has been voted on collectively by the five active councillors. Dailloux was appointed to the position in December 2022.

Clerk Dawn Newhook said the previous council expressed an interest in changing that process. There are multiple options Newhook said, though having a designated deputy mayor, rather than a ward representative who also takes on the additional deputy duties, may require changes to the number of representatives from each ward.

Currently, there are two members elected from Stanhope, one from Sherborne, and one from McClintock, Livingstone, Lawrence and Nightingale. Danielsen said, when discussing the issue with a resident, it was suggested dropping one Stanhope rep.

"I'm not saying I agree or disagree… but that was one option brought to my attention," Danielsen said.

A report will be brought back for discussion later in the spring. *(Algonquin Highlands news compiled by Mike Baker).*



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# Lakes, radio, plastics on menu for U-Links

**By Mike Baker**

After spending months analyzing water samples from 18 lakes in Haliburton County, student researcher Jacob Wyonch says he's just scratching the surface on data he hopes will one day accurately portray the prevalence of microplastics in our waters.

In his first year of Trent University's masters in environmental and life sciences graduate program, Wyonch has partnered with U-Links on the multi-year project. So far, he's tested samples from spring and fall in 2022 and 2023, though plans to run data from the two seasons through to 2026.

An update on Wyonch's progress will be shared at U-Links celebration of research, taking place March 29 at the Haliburton School of Art + Design.

Speaking with *The Highlander* this week, Wyonch said his work carries on from a prior U-Links project investigating surface water samples from Stocking, Kennisis, Paudash, Spruce and Wenona lakes. Other waterbodies, such as Haliburton Lake and Lake Kashagawigamog, have been added to his study to represent microplastic pollution in more populated areas.

"The idea is to understand how the connection between human presence and microplastics may change over time," Wyonch said.

Microplastics are materials up to five millimetres long that have typically broken down from a larger product. Wyonch said there are two main categories – primary, which are bead-like components largely found in personal care and beauty products, and secondary, which are small fragments from things like plastic containers and construction materials.

They're also distinguished by different plastic types, usually polyester, polyethylene, and polypropylene.

"One of the reasons microplastics are so infamous right now is because when they break down to such a miniscule size, they're often light enough for them to be carried through the atmosphere. That's why we're seeing reports of their presence in the Arctic and other very remote areas."

Wyonch said preliminary results from 2022 and 2023 data show a median concentration of three microplastic particles per litre of surface water across the 18 lakes tested. The average size of microplastics found was about 1.5 millimetres.

Asked about the impacts on water quality and human health, Wyonch said that's "complex" to determine. He cited studies that found some aquatic species becoming lethargic, displaying abnormal behaviour, and seeing changes to their immune system when exposed to different types and concentrations of microplastics.

"We can't really subject humans to the same trials… but what we do know is microplastics are easily ingested and inhaled by humans and other large animals and frequent places like the brain, lungs and blood," Wyonch said.

Some types of microplastics, especially older pieces, can bond with other contaminants, like pesticides, which can make them more dangerous, Wyonch added.

There were some anomalies in his data, notably a spring 2023 sample from Big Hawk Lake showing a concentration of about 13 particles per litre. The average of all other lakes that season was four.

"There could be multiple reasons for that – where you collect samples from makes a big difference. Microplastics tend to accumulate closer to the shore. On-water activities, like fishing, are big sources of microplastic pollution," Wyonch said.

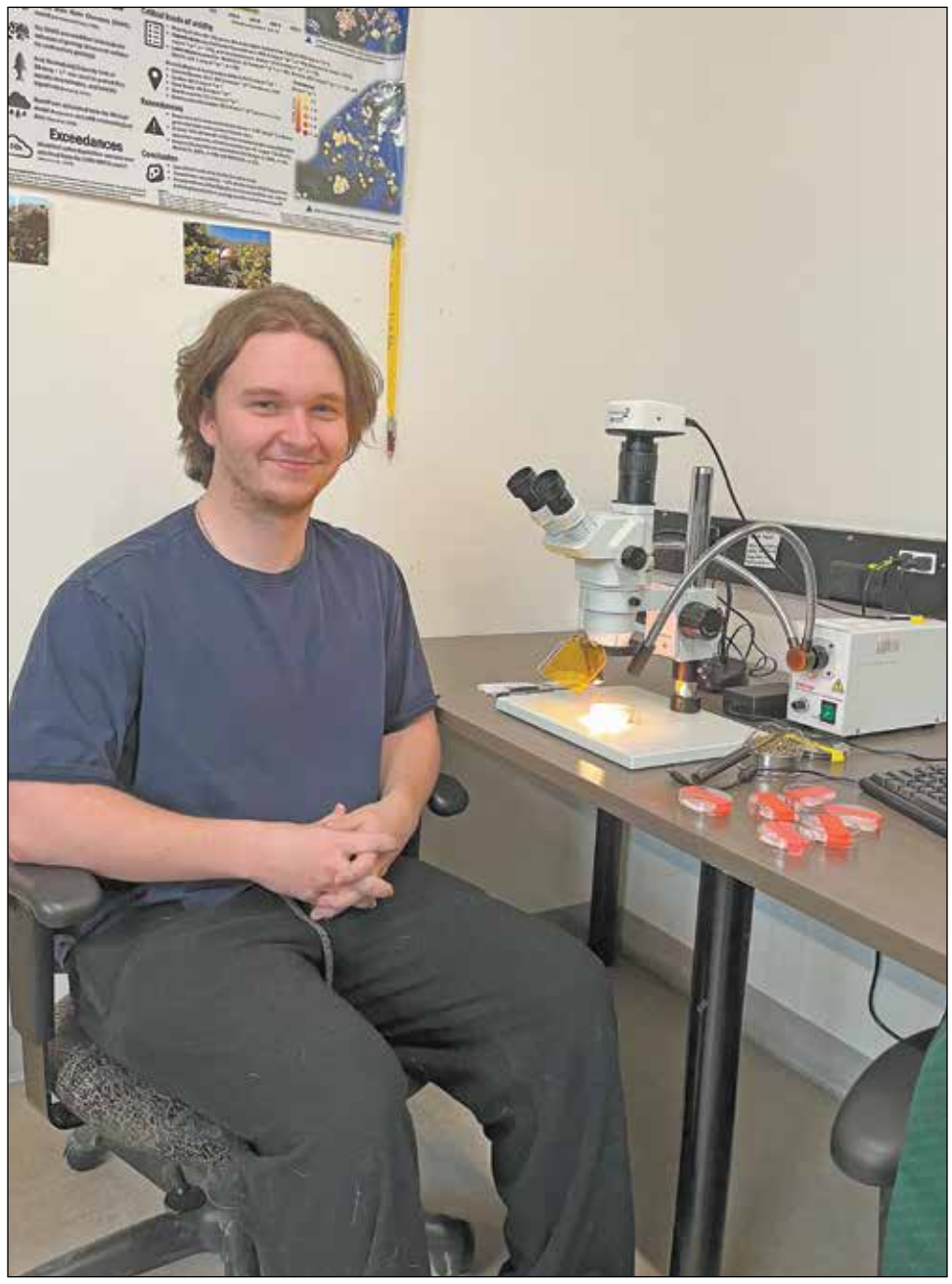
Eliminating the problem is largely impossible at this point, though Wyonch noted people can help limit further pollution by changing their consumption habits.

"Be conscious of your plastic use, recognize how much you use and then find alternatives, especially for single-use plastics. It's those things that are most likely to find their way into our environment," he said.

## On the agenda

U-Links staffer Daniela Pagliaro said more than 30 students will be available this weekend to discuss their County-based projects with the public. Informative posters will be displayed in the HSAD great hall.

There will be two additional live presentations, by Ella Honey and Angus McBridge who analyzed light pollution on Paudash Lake, and Tully Privett on CanoeFM radio statistics.




Jacob Wyonch will present his findings on microplastics in County lakes at U-Links celebration of research. *Submitted.*

A panel discussion on invasive species in Haliburton County is also scheduled, featuring keynote speaker, Dr. Pedro Antunes from Algoma University, students Kaleigh Mooney and Eric Sager, and Paul MacInnes of the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations (CHA).

"They will discuss the threat of invasive species and what you can do to help," said U-Links director Andy Gordon.

The celebration of research runs 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Attendance is free with a light lunch and refreshments served. Register online at ulinks.ca.

# Editorial opinion

TheHighlander
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## OUR MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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# Political apathy

By Mike Baker

Anyone else roll their eyes and shrug their shoulders when recently minted prime minister Mark Carney called yet another early election, this time a federal one, for April 28?

I'm not sure why the announcement bothered me so much. Everyone knew it was coming. And it's not like this one is even that early, being about six months ahead of schedule. This isn't quite the same as Doug Ford trying to take advantage of the whole U.S./Donald Trump groundswell to bring home a majority government.

There are similarities though.

In announcing a snap election, Carney opted to give his competitors 36 days on the campaign trail. That's the shortest timeframe allowed under the *Canada Elections Act.* While it's not likely to matter much to the likes of Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre, the NDP's Jagmeet Singh, or Green Party figurehead Elizabeth May, the tight turnaround is likely a death knell for hundreds of small-time, local candidates.

While sitting MPs seeking re-election are ready to go right out of the gates, competing parties are seemingly struggling to get their affairs in order. At least, that's the case here in the refreshed Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes riding.

Jamie Schmale, our MP since 2015, is vying for his fourth term in Ottawa. So far, he's the only name on the ballot for local voters.

We reached out to the head of the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes Liberal Association to enquire about a candidate, but didn't hear back. There was no updated local contact for the NDPs and Greens, though emails to the party's primary media lines went unreturned. I can only assume that means they don't have candidates yet.

None, not even Schmale, have registered with Elections Canada yet. Nominations will remain open until April 7.

Given there's been plenty of talk about an early election, I'm not sure the lack of candidates can be attributed to disorganization at the local level. More likely, it's becoming harder for parties to find qualified people willing to run. This kind of disillusionment is normal after 25 years of Tory reign in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes.

Perhaps would-be candidates saw what happened during last month's provincial election, where Laurie Scott trounced her competition, earning more votes than the other eight hopefuls combined en route to a seventh term at Queen's Park.

Did she deserve such support? There's no question she ducked out on constituents – way before the election when she was absent for the Minden ER debacle, and during the campaign when skipping all three organized debates. Still, she secured 26,446 votes.

Alison Bennie, the novice Liberal candidate, had 11,676 votes despite being the last to enter the race and among the least prepared. In contrast, the NDP's Barbara Doyle, who ran an active campaign, was well-versed on local issues, and spoke well at public events, finished in a distant third.

Maybe it's not all that surprising then that no competitor has stepped forward to challenge Schmale. He's almost certainly going to win no matter who runs against him.

I think that's why I've become so apathetic. Is anything really going to change with this election?

Recent polls suggest probably not. Poilievre seemed a shoe-in to be Canada's next prime minister a few months ago. Now, the Angus Reid Institute and Leger have him trailing Carney a month out.

Polls should be taken with a grain of salt – they only reach a miniscule sample of voters. But the writing appears to be on the wall.

Politics has long been a game of cloak and daggers, politicians using an endless supply of moves from their playbook to get a leg up over their rivals. Perhaps I'm naïve, but it shouldn't be this way.

The Liberals, NDP, Greens and other parties should have been prepared to announce candidates the second an election was called. That they didn't suggests political apathy is spreading from the voters and infecting those with aspirations to serve.

# Much to celebrate

By Lisa Gervais

How many Highlanders have learned to skate thanks to the Minden Skating Club?

They are a non-profit volunteer association providing the community with an opportunity to develop a variety of disciplines and ability levels in skating.

They celebrated their 75th anniversary in fine style this past Sunday at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden.

They presented Minden on Ice: A Disney Dreamland during two shows March 23.

This is always a highlight of the Highlands' year; with standing room only as parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles, gather to cheer the kids on.

The smiles from the competitors' themselves, and furrowed brows in concentration, are the stuff of memories.

This diamond jubilee was extra special, with performances by Kurt Browning and national skating pair, Fiona Bombardier and Ben Mimar.

Browning, who has a Minden connection, was the first skater to land a ratified quadruple jump in competition. He is a four-time World Champion and Canadian national champion. He competed at three different Olympic Games. Pretty special for the club's celebrations.

Bombardier and Mimar are fresh off competing at the 2025 Skate Canada Nationals and are rising stars in the pairs world.

Seeing some of their skating idols who've made the big time was no doubt inspirational for the club's members.

We congratulate the club on 75 years.

Speaking of celebrations, we are headed into another U-Links celebration of research this weekend.

More than 30 students will be available Saturday to discuss their County-based projects with the public. Informative posters will be displayed in the HSAD great hall. There will be three live presentations: Jacob Wyonch on the prevalence of microplastics in our waters; Ella Honey and Angus McBridge, who analyzed light pollution on Paudash Lake; and Tully Privett on CanoeFM radio statistics. There'll be a panel discussion on invasive species in Haliburton County featuring prominent keynote speakers.

This is a great event because it is the community that pitches projects to the students. They become partners and the research has delved into challenges, and, in many cases, come up with solutions.

This week, we profile the last County resident to receive a King Charles III Coronation Medal. Steven Cooper, of Gooderham, has joined an impressive list that includes: Rev. Joan Cavanaugh-Clark, Dick Schell, Lynda Litwin, Fay Martin, Klara Oyler, Wayne Krangle, Ken Mott and Brenda Boomhouer.

They are all tireless volunteers for the causes they believe in. They represent the very best of Haliburton County.

The Highland Storm is winding down another successful minor hockey season in the County. This week we begin running team photos and write-ups from the coaches. It's the kind of coverage the parents, and grandparents, stick on the fridge. While not every team advances to OMHA playdowns, these kids – and their parents – got up at the crack of dawn, devoted weekends, and some travelled, to represent us in the blue, white and yellow. They did us proud.

We had people sleep in cars this past weekend, to raise money for, and awareness of, homelessness in Haliburton County. They are hopeful of raising $40,000 to put towards Places for People's projects. We've had a local restaurant featured in a cookbook; a first ever keg curling event, and we are preparing for a documentary film day.

When we look around our community – there is so much to celebrate.

# Editorial opinion

## LETTERS

### Leave my Tesla alone

***Dear editor,***

I purchased my Tesla 3 in December, 2020.

I added it to my stable of electric tools (Ryobi riding mower, Rad electric bicycle, B&D electric hedge trimmer, and electric chainsaw).

This was my ongoing attempt to reduce my carbon footprint. The Tesla is the best vehicle I have ever owned or driven. It was purchased at a time when Elon Musk was the golden boy of corporate wealth; owner of Tesla, Spacex, Social Media X, a tunnel boring company.

I am just as ticked off at the actions of this guy as most of you are. We are Canadians. The Muskrat purchased the presidency of the U.S. with his billions of dollars. I find that disgusting in a so-called democracy. I used to think he was a smart man but he is following in the footsteps of all the others Trump has thrown under the bus; Mike Lyndel (The pillow guy) Rudy Giuliani, what tragic story there, and several others too numerous to mention.

It would not surprise me if Elon Musk was next. The point I want to make is that I too dislike what this guy has become. All I am asking is that you do not take out your frustrations on my car or any other Tesla. Here are some little-known facts about this engineering marvel. Apart from it operating on electricity, it has multiple cameras. It will take your photograph if you attempt to vandalize it.

***John Pugh***
***Minden Hills***

### Changes coming for 9-1-1 calls

This letter is about the changes coming to the 9-1-1 emergency service.

It will improve response times for those who need ambulance service the most.

The article in last week's paper goes into great detail about how and when, and for what reasons, to cal,l and not to call, 9-1-1.

However, I found the article outlines in great detail what the new 9-1-1 service is designed for and when not to call 9-1-1.

*The Highlander* had an opportunity and the responsibility for an additional article or at least one major paragraph to list the County services available for non-9-1-1 emergencies.

I am looking forward to a detailed article about the County services available and when and how to contact them. For instance, you might list which services are available 24/7 and which 9 to 5 weekdays for instance.

Sorry to rain on your parade but the job is only half done.

***Armin Weber***
***Eagle Lake***

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Randy Moratz caught these deer peering through the deck railings at his cottage.

### Full transparency

***Dear editor,***

In response to the March 13 Minden Hills council meeting and *The Highlander's* March 20 article, we are once again addressing the long-running issue of the Bob Lake public boat launch. While this matter has stretched over eight years, the Bob Lake Association's latest proposal started last spring, which offered multiple solutions for restoring public access to the original launch - without relying on taxpayer dollars.

Our delegation also highlighted key historical facts showing how missed opportunities by the township contributed to the launch's closure in 2016. However, our delegation request was denied and never made public. Instead, council directed staff to review our material and report back - leading to the discussion on March 13.

Unfortunately, this latest staff report appears to have relied on legal advice which did not consider the historical context of the situation. As a result, it presented a broad, generalized interpretation of expropriation, focusing on extreme cases rather than the specifics at hand. This led to a council discussion that lacked crucial context and included statements that misrepresented the issue.

Also of concern, the staff report looked at only one aspect of the BLA proposal, with no consideration to the other solution paths or funding options presented.

The BLA has formally requested that the township include our original delegation materials, along with our response to the staff report, in the next council agenda. The public deserves full transparency to establish its own informed opinion.

***Dave Roberts***
***Chair, Bob Lake Association***

### Bob Lake boat launch

***Dear editor,***

It was disappointing to see Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter's terse dismissal of coun. Shirley Johannessen's very valid comments and concerns about the lack of ready access to Bob Lake by the MNRF, police and other first responders and businesses.

Although mayor Carter thinks that police, fire and MNRF have 'no issues' accessing the lake, the facts are that they aren't accessing the lake. Since the closure of the public boat launch in 2016, to my knowledge, the OPP have been on Bob Lake only once and only because a member of the Bob Lake Association made their private boat ramp available.

There is no enforcement of boating regulations on Bob Lake. Nor have we seen the MNRF monitoring fish stocks or checking licenses. These are real concerns with potentially significant consequences. Bob Lake needs it' public boat launch restored.

***John du Manoir***
***Bob Lake, Minden Hills***

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# Highlander business

# Haliburton Solar + Wind blows to new digs

**By Lisa Gervais**

Haliburton Solar + Wind has moved from Abbey Gardens to a new home on Hwy. 35 in Minden.

Owner Carolina Barberi said, "it was about finding a central location for all the staff. We have staff that live as far away as Lindsay, and travelling to Abbey Gardens was just too far.

"Additionally, there was no storage at Abbey Gardens, so it made our ability to plan our projects a little bit more complicated."

She said they had equipment stored at her home, the foreman's home, and some on-site, which made coordinating difficult."

Having the storage (at #12667 Hwy. 35 Minden, unit 2) is really important."

Barberi said the other bonus is the exposure that comes with being located on a highway.

"Just for visibility … we've already had people just pop in randomly to ask questions, whereas at Abbey Gardens, unless you were at Abbey Gardens, people didn't know we were there; after being there for 10 years, people still didn't know we were there."

Founder and former owner, Brian Nash, established Haliburton Solar + Wind in 2012 and moved the business to a custom-made building at Abbey Gardens in 2017. He sold to Barberi and Joel Ideson, master electrician, in 2021.

Ideson looks across the highway to the Hydro One depot, and jokes, "my biggest reason for being here? I can keep an eye on the competition."

Comedy aside, Barberi added, "it made a lot of sense. We needed to have better exposure, have a central location to make planning for our projects easier. This is great. Say we were travelling to Dorset, and needed to fill the trucks with gas, we'd be asking 'where is the nearest gas station?' and having to travel back from Haliburton or Minden. Now, we have a gas station just up the highway. Logistically, this made sense."

When Nash moved into Abbey Gardens, it was into a sustainably-built solar powered and off-grid building; the first of its kind at the time. The building showcased off-grid technologies on the Abbey Gardens property.

Ideson said it's driving him crazy there are no solar panels at the new digs – yet. "My eventual goal is to have a full grid-connected demonstration because the industry has rapidly changed over the last three years or so. What we're installing this year; we probably won't install next year. It will be obsolete. The focus now is on grid-connected, basically energy reduced or load displacement. Using your own power, keeping grid in the background as needed, and also having the ability to discharge batteries based on time of use etc."

He elaborates, "moving forward, that needs to be the central focus of the company. We're still going to obviously do off-grid, but off-grid is becoming far more complicated with the increased size and loads people have."

Carolina Barberi and Joel Ideson of Haliburton Solar and Wind. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

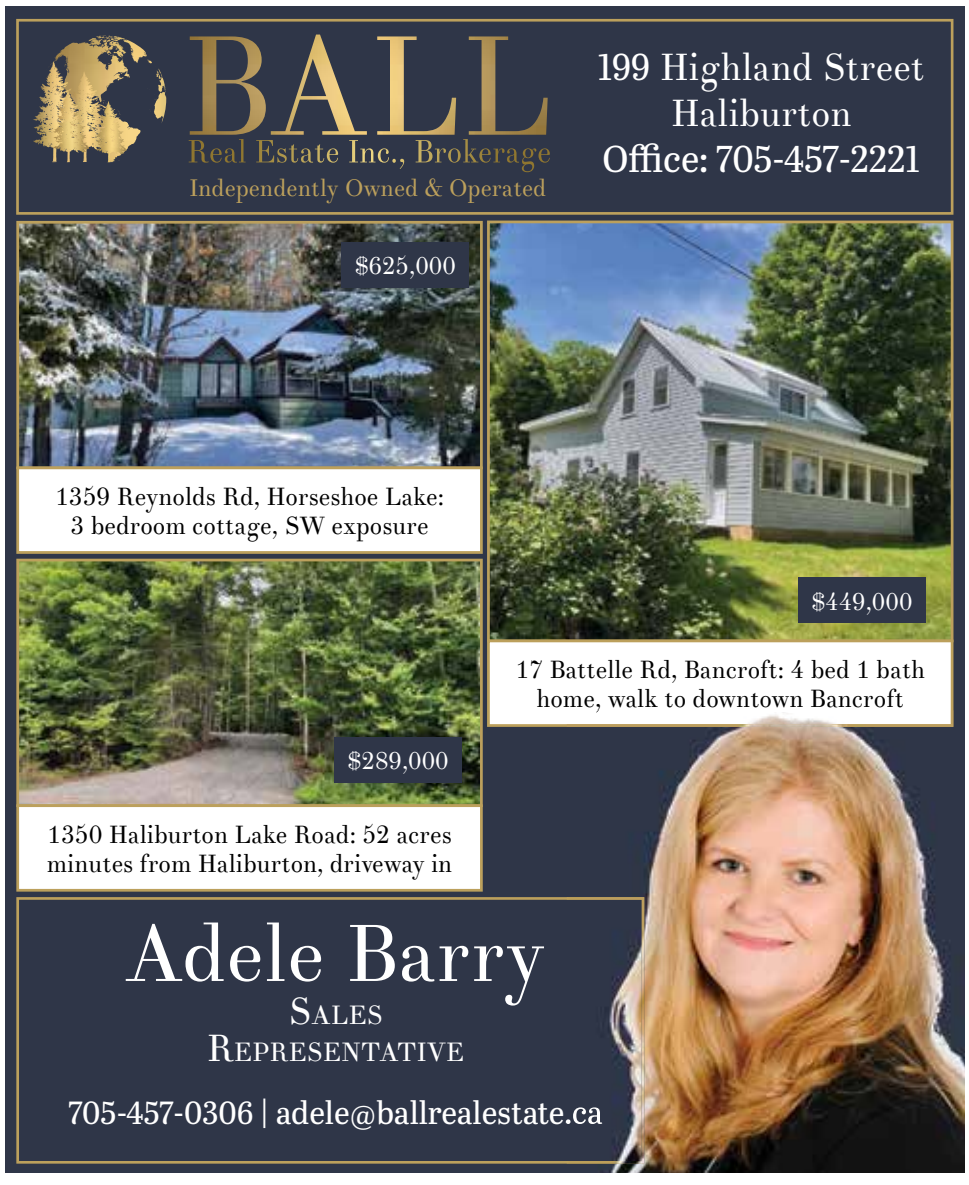
Barberi added, "what's great about the hybrid model is it allows people the ability to live off-grid with the security of a back-up."

The former Algonquin Outfitters store has had a facelift, replete with new paint, and ceiling tiles. And while the space is new, Barberi said the goal remains the same.

"Always education; explaining to people what is available, and how it works. One of the biggest things with this industry is demystifying how it works. There's a lot of people who don't understand."

She added with provincial grants announced this year, allowing up to $5,000 back on roof-mounted solar, and up to $5,000 for energy storage, now applying to any property, not just primary, they are getting inquiries.

Haliburton Solar and Wind is at #12667 Hwy. 35, unit 2. 705-455-2637.

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# Dominion cracks cookbook

**By Lisa Gervais**

The Dominion Hotel in Minden has been recognized for good food and outstanding customer experience by eviivo, an international cloud-based property booking and management platform.

Hotel owner Shawn Chamberlin said his establishment will be included in eviivo's upcoming cookbook publication, *Inspired Stays, Local Flavors.*

The book was distributed internationally on Independent Accommodation Day (IAD), March 24.

Chamberlin said the book features best-loved recipes from independent hosts around the world.

Chamberlin added The Dominion Hotel has been the "hot spot" in downtown Minden since it first started providing food, drink, entertainment, and accommodation to travellers and locals in 1865.

It is the oldest business in Haliburton County and one of the oldest continually operating hotels in Canada.

"Indeed, this business predates Canada, having been opened two years before Confederation," Chamberlin said.

As for the cookbook, he said their fish and chips is the featured entry.

"The decades-old recipe is simply made with the hotel's own Dominion Hotel 1865 Lager and continues to be a best seller, especially on 'Fish Friday'."

Shawn and wife, Elli Chamberlin, said they were excited by the recognition.

"Our food quality and customer experience are top priorities. We've known the popularity of our fish and chips. It is so nice to be recognized for having our food and location included in this international cookbook," Elli Chamberlin said.

The Dominion Hotel's beer battered fish & chips, held by Sharon Hughes, who works every Fish Friday. *Photo by Stephanie Edwards.*

Eviivo says it is, "a leading hospitality software company that provides independent accommodators a hassle-free booking and property management platform. With over 28,000 accommodations and 660,000 bookings per month, eviivo's booking and property management platform is the preferred software for independent hotels, motels, B&Bs, vacation rentals, urban rentals, resorts, inns, and villas."

## Now that's a kegger...

Boshkung Brewing Co. and the Minden Curling Club teamed up March 24 for Boshkung's first annual keg curling tournament. The event attracted 64 people, with 32 teams of two. The goal was to slide a keg to the rings for victory. The night also featured live music by Cam Galloway. Boshkung's Mathew Renda said they would do it again.

Pictured above: Dave Hammond slides a keg down the ice. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

# Highlander arts

# Doc(k) day: moving forward with hope

**By Lisa Gervais**

*Beethoven's Nine: Ode to Humanity*, will screen in the prime position at Doc(k) Day April 5. *Submitted.*

Director Larry Weinstein nearly talked himself out of making Saturday night's offering at Doc(k) Day, April 5, in Haliburton.

His film, *Beethoven's Nine: Ode to Humanity*, will screen in the prime position and Weinstein will be on hand for a question-and-answer session at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion.

Yet, when approached by a colleague in German television about making a film to mark the 200th anniversary of the symphony, Weinstein wasn't feeling it. He'd already done a feature length film on Beethoven. He added in an interview with *The Highlander*, he doesn't particularly like the melody of *Ode to Joy* in the symphony, finding it "rather banal.

"I was talking myself out of a job. Whenever I reject something, that's when it comes back to haunt me."

He read Harvey Sachs' *The Ninth: Beethoven and the World in 1824.* It discusses what was happening in politics, aesthetics, and the overall climate of the era, at the time of the symphony's premier in Vienna, Austria. Sachs talks about the work as a symbol of freedom and joy – bringing forth the power of the individual, while celebrating the collective spirit of humanity.

Weinstein shifted from thinking it "banal" asking himself, "what if it's more about the enlightenment ideals that inspired Beethoven to want to do a symphony, which he incorporated Friedrich Schiller's poem *Ode to Joy* in?"

No one had ever included words in a symphony before "but he thought this was so important because the world wasn't a great place … I think Beethoven thought 'I want to make a piece of music that is a love letter to humanity; that is about the future; where we should go and where we are not now. Maybe he was writing this piece for us 200 years later, assuming the world would be a better place'."

It's not lost on Weinstein that the symphony "is very relevant today."

From saying 'no' to the project, he said 'yes', and then came up with the idea of following nine people around the world grappling with the message of hope in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, including a deaf composer, a Polish rock star, an author, a legendary cartoonist, and Weinstein himself. He spoke with members of the Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra, about their tragedies, stories, and losses.

During the making of the film, Hamas attacked Israel on Oct. 7, 2023. Weinstein's sister and brother-in-law were in a kibbutz two kilometres from Gaza. It was very personal. The director said he believes in humanness, and did not want to become political or embittered. "To be resolution, there has to be understanding, and empathy, and compassion. We, as people, have to embrace these higher values in order to exist and co-exist."

Weinstein called Doc(k) Day, "a great festival." He was here 10 years ago with *Our Man in Tehran*, which he said the audience responded to "beautifully and generously.

"I just want the audience to feel the message profoundly for the sake of our friend Beethoven, for the same enlightenment, for the sake of humanity, and for my sake."

## Humanity and hope

Those Other Movies will bring five documentary films (four full-length and one short) to Haliburton.

"It is an opportunity to come together as a community to learn, reflect, and consider how to move forward in this world with hope," spokesperson Tammy Rea said.

She added, "the films have local and global connections to the arts, music, sports, and beautiful natural environments. The movies show many aspects of humanity - inspirational, challenging and hopeful."

The lineup for the day is:

10 a.m. Diane Warren: *Relentless* (91 min.)

Tells the story of a genius songwriter who has written over 400 songs for iconic artists such as Beyoncé, Taylor Swift, Celine Dion, Lady Gaga, Whitney Houston, Britney Spears, and Aerosmith.

11:45 a.m.: *Save Solace* (11 min.) + Q and A with the director, Matt Steeves

Documents the work of a group advocating to stop the planned construction of a new logging road that would dissect the Solace Wildlands, the last unprotected and roadless forest in Ontario's Temagami wilderness.

Picnic lunch. Bring your own lunch; eat and chat together in the cafeteria.

1:30 p.m.: *Porcelain War* (87 min.)

Tells the story of a group of artists from Ukraine who persevere against all odds.

3:30 p.m.: *Red Fever* (103 min.)

Follows Cree filmmaker Neil Diamond across North America and Europe to look at a multitude of ways in which Indigenous cultures have been reduced to stereotypes.

7:30 p.m.: *Beethoven's Nine: Ode to Humanity* (85 min.) + Q&A with director Larry Weinstein

(*Timing subject to change)

Tickets can be reserved online at thoseothermovies.com under the 'online store' tab. Tickets are $35 for all five films or $30 season pass holders. For more information, contact thoseothermovieshaliburton@gmail.com

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**highlandstorm.org**

# Highlander events

Left: Some of the participants of Sleeping in Cars hanging out around the fire. Above: The leadership team behind Places for People: (front L-R) Susan Tromanhauser, Fay Martin, Nataly Mylan and Paul Sheardown (back L-R) Roland Lange, Stuart Humphries and Sherry Lawr. *Photos by Justin Belanger*

# Sleeping in Cars adds $32k to P4P coffers

Thirty people slept overnight in their vehicles March 21 as part of Places for People's Sleeping in Cars annual event. Organizers said they had raised more than $32,000 and were hopeful of meeting their goal of $40,000 before the campaign ends in a couple of weeks. Spokesperson, Nataly Mylan, said, "we had a great breakfast, thanks to Fork & Flour and Rebel Elixir, and Yvonne from Skin Tech. We owe Andria Cowan Molyneaux and the ACM Designs team a huge thanks for once again being our event sponsor and for participating." Mylan added, "there was a very positive atmosphere despite the current political and economic climate, which means people think affordable housing is important. Thank you to such an incredibly generous and caring community. It was awesome to see new faces and meet new people. Thanks to Gord Kidd for the music, it certainly helped us keep spirits lifted." She said people can still donate and more donations are coming in." P4P president Susan Tromanhauser said, "the generosity of community members supporting the Sleeping in Cars event plays a crucial role in maintaining our P4P units, ensuring our tenants continue to have access to safe, comfortable living spaces. Additionally, this support enables us to plan for future units, addressing the increasing demand for affordable housing throughout Haliburton County." Go to placesforpeoople.ca. *(Lisa Gervais)*

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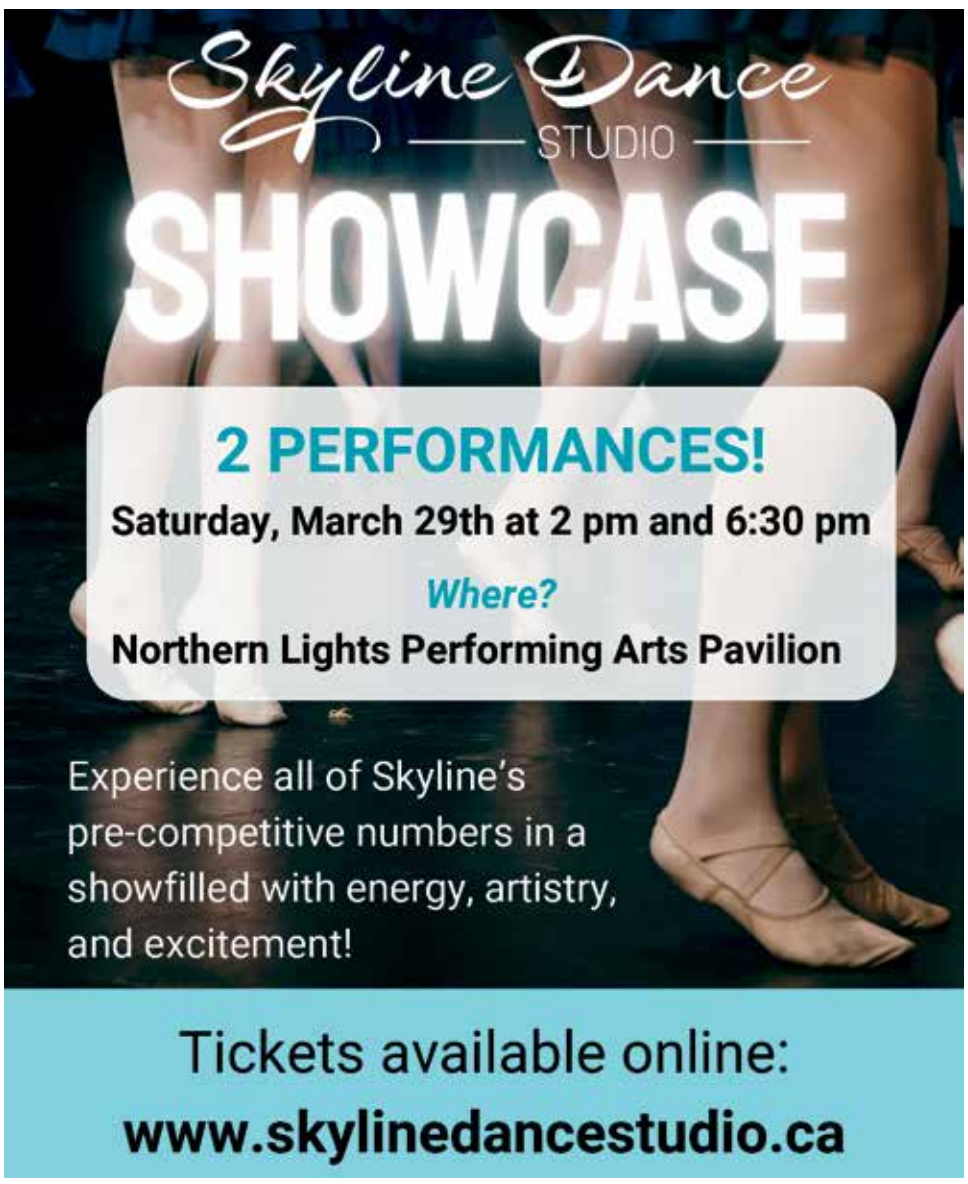
*stats from socialinsider.io

# Highlander events

## Art attack at HSAD

The Haliburton School of Art + Design at Fleming College had an open house March 22 to showcase their programs and courses. Instructors were on hand to give some demos and answer questions, while some of the students worked on their respective artistic mediums. Jewellery making, ceramics and glassblowing are just some of the disciplines offered. *(Justin Belanger)*

Top left: Desirae Cowey and Cassie Chambers working on their current pieces in the jewellery essentials program. Above: Glass blowing teacher John Ducker. Middle: Marianne Ibrahim works on a goblet cup in the glass blowing studio. Right: Beth Tucker came all the way from Newfoundland to study in the ceramics program. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*



# Highlander events

## Puddle jumping at the hill

Sir Sam's Ski/Ride had their annual Spring Splash March 22 out at the Eagle Lake ski hill. Dozens of brave pond-skimmers came from everywhere - from Trenton to Toronto to Haliburton - to try and clear the icy cold water in the puddle Jump. With a BBQ on the patio and the sounds of Carl Dixon in the air, everyone was happy to celebrate the start of Spring. *(Justin Belanger)*

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# Highlander people

Stephen Cooper receives his medal from HKLB MP Jamie Schmale. *Submitted.*

## Awarded for the love of cadets

**By Lisa Gervais**

Stephen Cooper was handed the last King Charles III Coronation Medal in the County March 19, during a ceremony in Gooderham.

Cooper is a retired navy man. He started with the cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers program in 1986 with RCSCC Iron Duke in Burlington. He progressed through the ranks to serve as the commanding officer (for a five-year term). He received the City of Burlington civic recognition award in 1999 for his work with a successful local cadet program that brought honour and prestige to the city. After command of the Duke, Cooper transferred to RCSCC Triumph in East Hamilton-Stoney Creek and was twice appointed as commanding officer.

Upon retiring from his civilian job, Cooper moved permanently to Haliburton. Once settled, he joined with Coboconk's RCSCC Hood in October 2018 and assumed command in June 2019. Upon taking command, Hood only had four cadets. Cooper worked extremely hard to rebuild and stabilize the unit. He also ran the unit solo until two additional volunteers joined in 2023.

His nominee, Susan Cooper, said "Steven Cooper… has provided the young people of Kawartha Lakes with an amazing opportunity and a great and successful program. The cadets' dedication, determination and their outstanding performance at numerous events and competitions is a testament to the professionalism and commitment (of Cooper). He has dedicated 37 years to the cadet program making a sustained, significant and valuable contribution towards the development of the youth in Canada, instilling them with a sense of pride, good citizenship, and a desire to succeed."

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# Home of the Highland Storm

## U15 REP Haliburton Timber Mart

The Highland Storm U15 Rep Team, sponsored by Haliburton Timber Mart, had a great season overall.

They started with lots of success and were able to capture the regional championship at the Silver Stick tournament, in a very exciting final game.

The Storm continued to play hard after returning to regular season play, and were able to secure the second-place spot in the standings to close the first half of the season.

The second half saw the top four teams in the division re-seeded into their own bracket, which set the stage for a highly-competitive rest of the year.

All four teams were closely matched, and the Storm had to play their best hockey, game in and game out.

They finished the year in second place, earning them home ice advantage in their first series. Going down after game one, the U15 Rep Storm was able to battle back, taking the win in game two on the road, and were able to return home to win the series in game three against the Millbrook Stars.

As the Storm went on to the second round, they were playing their best hockey of the season. They had come together as a team, with each player finding their role, and understanding what they brought to the ice.

The second round against the Kawartha Coyotes made for three exciting, competitive, adrenaline-filled games. Game one and game two went to overtime, with each team taking one win into game three. Unfortunately, the Storm came up one goal short in game three after a hard-fought battle with the Coyotes.

Although the U15 Rep Storm didn't reach their goal of advancing to the OMHA tournament this year, they left everything on the ice, and should be extremely proud of their improvement, and successes, this year. *(Submitted)*

## U18 LL Tom Prentice and Sons

As the final buzzer sounds, another season ends for the U18 Tom Prentice and Son's players and bench staff. The team looks back on a year filled with hard work, growth, highs and lows, and unforgettable moments both on and off the ice, with thrilling victories and lessons learned in defeat. This season has been an unforgettable one. Best of luck to next year's U18 players and staff. *(Submitted)*

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Left: Huskies forward Isaac Larmand tries to bully his way through Toronto Jr. Canadiens defencemen in Tuesday's 3-0 playoff defeat in Minden. Middle: Huskies forward Noah Lodoen goes eye-to-eye with Toronto Jr. Canadiens netminder Amir Valiullin in Tuesday's 3-0 playoff defeat in Minden. Right: Nathan Poole rips a shot on net during the Huskies 3-0 playoff defeat to the Toronto Jr. Canadiens in Minden March 25. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*

# Ramsay calls for more scoring in JRC series

**By Mike Baker**

Haliburton County Huskies coach Ryan Ramsay said it's do-or-die time for his young team this weekend, with their second-round playoff series with the Toronto Jr. Canadiens hanging in the balance.

After an impressive 2-0 victory on the road in game one March 23, the Huskies came crashing back to earth Tuesday evening after a confidence-sapping 3-0 defeat on home ice in Minden.

Taking home first star honours after recording a 40-save shutout in Sunday's win, goaltender Tyler Hodges let in two of the first three shots he faced on Tuesday, after 11 and 50 seconds. He rebounded well, finishing the game with 32 saves, but with no help at the other end the Huskies slumped to their third defeat in four playoff games at S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

"The start was horrible, obviously. You take away that crazy first minute and it's a decent game. I thought we played OK, but you can't play OK in the second round against a good team," Ramsay told *The Highlander* the morning after the result.

"Shots were pretty even, chances were pretty even, but our powerplay has got to get going," he added, with the special team going 0-5 in game two after blanking on three opportunities Sunday.

"It's just one game. In the playoffs, especially against good teams, you're going to have ups and downs. That's not the way we wanted to play, but we have to put that out of our minds and focus on winning game three. The series is still there for the taking."

The Huskies responded well to the Canadiens' early onslaught – Tai York, Chase Lefebvre, and Cameron Hankai all had decent opportunities but couldn't find a way past Amir Valiullin in the JRC net. Alex Bradshaw had a big moment late in the first, dancing around three Toronto defencemen shorthanded, but was dragged to the ground before getting a shot off. There was no call on the play.

JRC killed the game early in the middle frame, Nathan Phillips firing one past Hodges, via defenceman Raine Nadeau's stick, 36 seconds in. It was a scrappy period with scoring opportunities at a premium, though the Huskies were fortunate Jordan Karafile shot wide with the net open at the seven-minute mark.

It was a parade to the penalty box in the third – Alex Bradshaw served a 10-minute misconduct for head contact, Chase Del Colombo took a two-minute interference minor, Nathan Poole got four minutes for kneeing, and Larmand a minor holding call.

Stefan Forgione came closest to a late consolation, ringing the iron with seconds remaining.

Ramsay said he's going to mix his lines ahead of game three in Toronto Wednesday – result was unavailable by press time. He noted many of his top players from the regular season are struggling to get going in the playoffs.

"Deandres DeJesus has one assist, he led the team in goals during the regular season but hasn't scored in eight playoff games. Larmand plays in the top six and is at zero points. Kieran Litterick has one point, Poole and Bradshaw only have two. Declan Bowmaster is a skilled guy, but he's been quiet.

"If we're only scoring one goal a game, or no goals like last night, we're not going to win. We've got to start scoring goals," Ramsay said. "We've just got to get to the net, put pressure on their goalie. Rebounds have been there through two games. We've got to get to the dirty areas and make the not-so-pretty plays. That's how you find success in the playoffs."

**Huskies 2-0 JRC**

It was the blue and white that started strongest in Sunday's series-opener, a 2-0 win in Toronto.

York had the first goal 4:19 into the first, potting his sixth of the post-season on assists from Hankai and Ty Petrou. The team's defence took over from there, shutting down JRC for long stretches of the game. When they did get through, Hodges was a brick wall, recording 15 saves in the first, 13 in the second, and 12 in the third.

Petrou added some gloss to the scoreline with an unassisted empty netter with 38 seconds left on the clock.

"With the series tied, we have a great chance still to show who we are and do what we need to do to win. It's in our hands," Ramsay said.

Game four will be in Minden March 29, puck drop at 4 p.m., with game five in Toronto March 30. If needed, the teams will return to Minden for game six April 1, puck drop at 7 p.m., with game seven in the city April 2.

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**11:45 AM**
**SAVE SOLACE** *11 mins*

*documents the work of a group advocating to stop the planned construction of a new logging road in the last unprotected forest in Ontario's Temagami wilderness.*

**Q&A WITH MATT STEEVES, DIRECTOR**

*12:30 - 1:30*
*BRING*
*A PICNIC LUNCH.*
*WE CAN CHAT MOVIES!*

**1:30 PM**
**PORCELIAN WAR** *87 mins*

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**3:30 PM**
**RED FEVER** *103 mins*

*follows Cree filmmaker Neil Diamond with humour and honesty, he shines a light on appropriation and the impact on Indigenous people.*

**7:30 PM**
**BEETHOVEN'S NINE: ODE TO HUMANITY**

*follows 9 people around the world who are grappling with the message of hope in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9. This is a film about music, war and hope.*

**Q&A WITH LARRY WEINSTEIN DIRECTOR**

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# Highlander events

## Disney on ice in Minden

The S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena played host to the Minden Skating Club's 75th anniversary celebration March 23. This year's show was themed 'A Disney Dreamland' with costumed skaters doing solo and group routines. A packed house was delighted by the performances of club members and three special guests. Skating pair, Fiona Bombardier and Ben Mimar, rising stars on the national skating scene; and no stranger to the area, Kurt Browning, former multiple Canadian and World Champion, putted on exhibitions. (Justin Belanger)

Top: The Chimney Sweepers from 'Mary Poppins' spin around and around, faster and faster. Above left: Ben Mimar tosses Fiona Bombardier high in the air. Middle: Nicole Lee as Malificent in 'Sleeping Beauty' coasting through a turn. Middle right Ellie Nimigon as Snow White with amazing balance in a tight low spin. Above right: (L-R) Kinsley Murdoch, Brianna Cartwright, Ali Mantle and Jayde Rowden skate circles around Belle/Paislee Cybulski.

# What's on

## ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

**Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton**

**Mondays:** Bridge at 1 p.m. in the Schofield Room. Youth darts league, for ages 10 to 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the clubroom. All are welcome.
**Tuesdays:** League darts starting at 7 p.m in the clubroom. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30-9 p.m. between September and June.
**Wednesdays:** Bid euchre 1 p.m. start, main hall. Bingo hopefully returning in March.
**Thursdays:** General meeting third Thursday of the month.
**Fridays:** meat draw, five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts 4:30 p.m. onwards. 50/50 draw at 5 p.m, tickets are $1 and available in the clubroom.
**Saturdays:** Open only for special events
**Clubroom hours:** Monday 3-9 p.m., Tues 5-9 p.m., Wed/Thurs 3-6 p.m., Fri 3-7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday closed. Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for rental information call Cheryl Waller at 905- 447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com/facility-rentals Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129…everyone is welcome!
*The Legion's mandate is to help veterans, assist with their mental and physical health and social wellbeing, provide a feeling of togetherness and combat isolation. All are welcome to attend our events.*

**Royal Canadian Legion - Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden**

Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday to Thursday with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' Tuesday.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 4-7 p.m.
Saturday all day breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541

**Weekly activities:**
**Karaoke:** call for dates
**Monday:** Rug Hookers every second week.
**Monday:** Euchre 1-3 p.m.
**Thursday:** Cribbage 1-3 p.m., Darts 7-9 p.m. and euchre 7-9 p.m.

**Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce**

**Mondays:** open 7 to 10 p.m.
**Tuesdays:** closed
**Wednesdays:** open 2 to 6 p.m.
**Thursdays:** open 7 to 10 p.m.
**Fridays:** open 2 to 11 p.m.
**Saturdays:** open 2 to 9 p.m.
**Sundays:** closed, special events only

Darts at 7 p.m. March 31, April 7, 14, 21 and 28 Cost is $5 per player. Afternoon sessions are April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 starting at 2 p.m. Cost is $4 per player.

Cornhole at 7 p.m. March 27, April 3, 10, 17 and 24 Cost is $5 per player.

HHHS social recreation March 27, April 10 and 24 at 10 a.m.

Fish and chips April 4 and 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is $15 for one piece, $20 for two pieces.

Wings and jam session March 28, April 11 and 25 from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is $15 per pound.

Seniors 55+ lunch March 28, April 11 and 25 at noon. Cost is $17 per person

Meat draw March 29, April 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 3 p.m.

April 26, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Soc Hop dance at the legion.

LA Breakfast April 13 from 9 to 11 a.m. Cost is 10 per person.

Call the legion for more information at 705-448-2221.

## EVENTS

Drop into any branch of the Haliburton County Public Library during April to vote for your favourite 'Forest of Reading' book and receive a fun button. There is still time to read more books, voting closes April 30. Visit haliburtonlibrary.ca for more information.

**April 4,** 11 a.m. Stop by the Wilberforce branch of the Haliburton County Public Library for an adult beginner-friendly session about starting a successful vegetable garden. Additional workshops will be at the Minden branch April 5 at 2 p.m. and the Dysart branch April 26 at 2 p.m. Drop-ins welcome. Register at haliburtonlibrary.ca or by calling 705-457-2241.

**April 4,** 6:30 to 9 p.m. Youth Unlimited is providing bubble soccer at the HHSS gym for all youth in Grades 6-12. Cost is $20. Waivers available at the door or can be done in advance at yfc.ca/haliburton-highlands. Waivers must be signed by a parent. Indoor running shoes are also required.

**April 7,** 1 p.m. The Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library will host Douglas Tindal at its spring cafe at the Minden Hills branch. Author of Tales from Wine on the Porch, Tindal will discuss inspirations for his book and his life in Haliburton County. Signed copies will be available for $15, with $3 going to the Friends group. Admission is by donation. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Penni Chalk at 705-286-3276.

**April 9,** 2 p.m. The Minden branch of the Haliburton County Public Library is hosting a free adult needle felting workshop. Create bold and beautiful landscapes using striking, contrast colours. A second workshop will take place at the Dorset branch April 25 at 11 a.m. All materials provided. Registration required. Visit haliburtonlibrary.ca or call 705-457-2241.

**April 9,** 7 to 9 p.m. Telling Our Stories Speaker Series features author Gordon Cressy, who will share narratives from his most recent publication highlighting his adventures over the past 60 years, including in the Caribbean, Africa, China, Chicago and Toronto. At the Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association fish hatchery. Admission is $15 per person, available at the door, online at tellingourstories.company.site., or by contacting Barrie Martin at 705-457-7557 or barrieinthehighlands@gmail.com.

**April 12,** 1 p.m. Drop-in to the Minden, Dysart or Stanhope branch of the Haliburton County Public Library for a family movie matinee, featuring Peter Rabbit. A screening of The Lorax will be held in Minden, Stanhope and Cardiff April 26.

**April 12,** 2:30 p.m. Join fellow movie enthusiasts at the Cardiff branch of the Haliburton County Public Library for a lively discussion on directors, films, actors and genres. No registration required.

**April 15,** 4 to 5:30 p.m. Join the community's new ukulele group at the Stanhope branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. Bring your instrument and learn with us. No registration required. We meet every other Tuesday, with another scheduled event April 29.

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# Get wild for game at HHOA dinner

**By Mike Baker**

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association (HHOA) will be back at the Haliburton Legion this weekend giving County residents the chance to experience some new tastes and expand their palates.

Dan Smith, HHOA president, said there are still tickets available for the wild game dinner March 29. While there will be regular dishes available, such as ham, beef, meatballs and mashed potatoes, Smith said returning favourites not usually found at the dinner table include moose, bear, venison, elk, bison, wild boar, arctic char and rainbow trout.

Celebrating its milestone 30th year, the dinner is the main fundraiser for the County non-profit.

"It's our biggest event of the year – lots of people come together, celebrating community, good times with friends and neighbours. There will be lots of food to go around, a chance to try something a little different, but also more conventional items. So, if people don't want to eat wild game they don't necessarily have to.

"We don't get any funding from the government – all the work we do is done by volunteers and paid for with money raised right here in our community. This helps us do what we do," Smith said, noting annual running costs are about $80,000.

Founded in 1992, the HHOA has two arms – it's club division, which provides opportunities for bass fishing and other outdoors activities with a focus on youth mentoring, and its community hatchery program. Staff raise fish at the HHOA facility on Gelert Road before working with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to restock lakes in the County.

Smith said this is done for two reasons – to improve numbers for recreational fishing and to help rebuild dwindling natural fish populations. He noted Haliburton has the largest community hatchery in Ontario, stocking more than 800,000 fish over the past 20 years.

Workers have been busy growing fish at the hatchery for weeks. Smith said there's approximately 30,000 rainbow trout, Manitou lake trout and Haliburton gold trout maturing on-site, with stocking expected for late April or early May.

He isn't sure where the fish will be going this year, though said Maple, Glamor, Clement, Kashagawigamog, Devil's, Concession, Sheldon and Rainy lakes were topped up in 2024.

"As soon as the ice goes off the lakes we'll start really getting ready," Smith said.

The HHOA wild game dinner celebrates 30 years at the Haliburton Legion March 29. *File.*

"We have to make sure they won't be too stressed going from our temperature of water into something drastically different, so it's usually a few weeks into spring."

New this year, the HHOA is also planning to sell fish raised at the hatchery to the public starting in late April.

"It could be an option for people who have private bodies of water, like a pond or a small lake where the lakeshore is totally owned all the way around… the MNRF doesn't stock those places.

"We know how to raise fish, and we need to raise money for our operations, so we're trying to see if this is a way we can pay some of our bills so we can continue stocking long-term," Smith said.

There will be a silent auction at the dinner, though Smith said the HHOA is changing things up with its 50/50. Rather than a cash pot, people will have the chance to win a new Henry Long Ranger .308 hunting rifle, valued at $1,900. The gun was donated by the Muir family. Tickets are $20 each, or three for $50 and available at Outdoors Plus and the dinner.

Doors open at 5 p.m., with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $50.

Above: (L-R) Sandi Luck, Nadine Papp and Wendy Wood having a laugh. Inset: Breathe and Breathe Again (Poem by Dorianne Laux) by Sandi Luck. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*

## They're still talking ... and laughing

The 'We're Still Talking' art exhibit opened at the Agnes Jameson Gallery March 22. A collaboration between three friends and artists, the offering explores varying textile mediums and techniques. Artists Sandi Luck, Nadine Papp and Wendy Wood, have created vibrant works of art that have strong connections to the environment around us, from the spiders and the plants to the tides of the seas. The exhibit runs until May 10.

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# Highlander classifieds

## SERVICES

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HANDYMAN – Carpentry, General Repairs. Call or Text Doug at 416-889-8534

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PAINTER - Professional, experienced, clean and dependable painter for Residential/ Commercial projects. From 1 room to entire home/office. No charge for minor repairs. Call or text 647-213-2875, or call 705-447-2213 for a free estimate.

## FOR SALE

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## FOR RENT

FOR SALE – Rainbows for Stocking 8" fish available April 1st, contact halihhoa@gmail.com Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association, 6712 Gelert Rd, Haliburton

FOR RENT - Minden, 2 bdrm apt to rent in a house. Avail. Mid April, long term. Occasional shared kitchen, mature couple or single person. Shared hydro. $1500 mo. Call 705-286-3561, 1 p.m. to-6 p.m.

SELF-CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS for rent - Industrial Park Road, Various Sizes, Call 705-457-1224

HALL FOR RENT – Bright clean, newly renovated hall for rent. Seats 80. Suitable for meetings, life celebrations, training, seminars etc. Contact the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors at halihhoa@gmail.com or call 705-457-9664 at 6712 Gelert Road, Haliburton.

## HELP WANTED

DRIVER WANTED – Elderly lady looking for a driver to take her out for small errands. Minden area. Call 705-308-6978

MAINTENANCE PERSON WANTED
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## FOR RENT

WANTED – Tractor with bucket & 3 point hitch, cab would be good. Chrome bumper guards for 1954 Chevy Half Ton. Please call 705-286-3823 or e-mail to samuriron@hotmail.com

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## HELP WANTED

Municipality of Highlands East — Yours to Explore — highlandseast.ca

**Summer Employment Opportunities**

The Municipality of Highlands East is currently recruiting students for summer employment opportunities for the 2025 year.

If you are currently enrolled in secondary school or a post-secondary program and returning to school in the fall of 2025, you are encouraged to apply for an opportunity.

The following positions are available with the municipality:

- (1) Summer Parks & Recreation Attendant (Parks & Property Department – 16 weeks; 35 hours/week)
- (1) Cemetery Database Student (Parks & Property Department – 16 weeks; 35 hours/week)
- (1) Information Centre Student (Economic Development Department – 16 weeks; 35 hours/week)
- (2) Summer Landfill Attendants (Public Works Department – 16 weeks; 35 hours/ week)
- (4) Various Lifeguard Positions (Summer Swim Program – 8 weeks)

Please note, for positions where you may be required to drive in the execution of your duties, a Class G2 or G Driver's Licence is mandatory. You will also be required to provide an acceptable driver's abstract and a criminal reference check.

Most positions listed above are available from the beginning of May through to the end of August for a total of 16 weeks. The Lifeguard positions are for a total of 8 weeks only.

If you are interested in receiving a more detailed job description for one of the positions noted above, please email bmccaw@highlandseast.ca requesting a copy of the specific posting.

If you are interested in applying, applications **clearly marked with the position you are applying for** may be submitted on or before 12:00 p.m, Monday, April 7th, 2025, via mail, in person, fax or email. Interested applicants may submit their resume, in confidence to:

Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer
Municipality of Highlands East
P.O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road
Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0
Fax: 705-448-2532 E-Mail: bmccaw@highlandseast.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Municipality of Highlands East is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants requiring accommodation are asked to contact the CAO/Treasurer.
Applicant information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to determine qualifications for employment with the Municipality of Highlands East. Questions about this collection should be directed to Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer.

# Highlander classifieds

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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## THIS WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

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| 2 | 3 | S | 4 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 7 |
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| 3 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 1 | S | 8 |
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Chandler Point
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### Chandler Point Cleaner Needed

Chandler Point located on Lake Kashagawigamog has a cleaning position available.

The successful candidate will be able to work independently with minimal supervision. Providing weekly housekeeping services for a fractional ownership cottage vacation property it is preferable you have some direct work-related experience and demonstrated maturity in interpersonal relationships. Must be willing to work Mondays; working conditions and remuneration are excellent.

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TheHighlander

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### WANTED ANTIQUES

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## OBITUARIES

*A Celebration of Life for*

### Frederick Roy Chapple (Fred)

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St., Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0 on Saturday, April 5, 2025 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the Memorial Service to Celebrate Fred's Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow at the church (downstairs).

Memorial Donations to the Kidney Foundation (Ontario Division) (cheques only) or the Peterborough Regional Health Foundation would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

*In Loving Memory of*

### Gordon Wayne Barter "Gordie"

~ July 23, 1956 - March 16, 2025 ~

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the sudden passing of Gord at his home in Minden.

Gord was a proud Newfie who was always joking and he was everyone's favourite face at the golf course. He adored his grandkids — Danica, Lincoln, Rome, and Naia — more than anything else in this world.

Gord leaves behind his beloved wife Karen, son Todd (Lindsay), daughter Danielle (Gavin), his cherished grandchildren, and his sister Karen. Predeceased by his parents Arthur and Ethel Mae. His family was everything to him, and he will be deeply missed by all who were lucky enough to know him.

A true character with a heart of gold, Gord's memory will live on in the laughter and love he brought into every room. Rest easy, Gord — your jokes, your smile, and your love will never be forgotten.

The family wishes to thank all who have reached out with love and support during this time.

Gord's Golf Day will be held this summer to celebrate his life on a date and time that will be announced.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

# Highlander puzzles

## Answer Me This

by Barbara Olson
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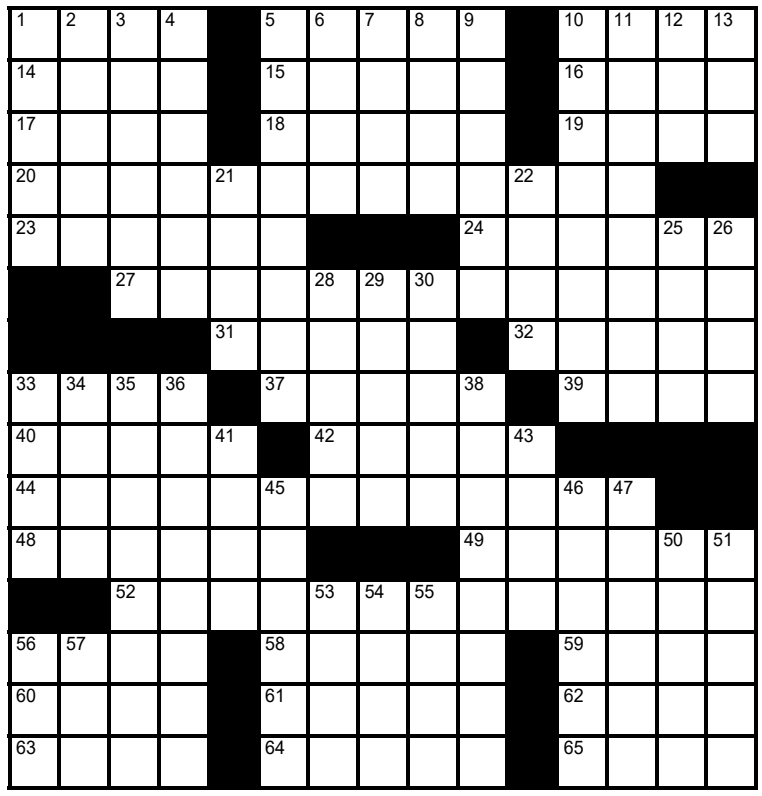

**Across**

**1** "The Giving Tree" author Silverstein
**5** Shaped like Rubik's toy
**10** Flightless bird or actress Perlman
**14** Viral video clip
**15** Catherine of "Schitt$ Creek"
**16** Four, on some old clocks
**17** Armchair athlete's network
**18** "___ your life!"
**19** Weed-___ (lawn spray brand)
**20** Question to an angler?
**23** Fancy sofa
**24** Granny's "snookums"
**27** Question to a museum curator?
**31** On a cod fishing expedition
**32** AC motor inventor Nikola
**33** What a sock may be missing
**37** Serbs or Croats, e.g.
**39** Connery who played James the first?
**40** Salty expanse
**42** Some hose hues
**44** Question to a meat seller?
**48** Midsize Nissan model
**49** Set of beliefs
**52** Question to a child in a paternity suit?
**56** Epicure's delight
**58** ___ grudge (not forgive)
**59** Roughly 30 "jours"
**60** Gaucho's weighted rope
**61** Urgent care pro
**62** Lead-in to "while"
**63** Full of uncertainties
**64** Views, old-style
**65** Quebec's Val-des-___

**Down**

**1** Ducks akin to mergansers
**2** Guy/girl pronoun
**3** One who feels your pain
**4** Gave temporarily
**5** Prize winning events
**6** "I think I messed up"
**7** Restrain, as breath
**8** ___-Z (old Camaro)
**9** Home to almost 3000 hockey rinks
**10** Heart and lung enclosures
**11** Skyscraper
**12** A-U link
**13** French river to the Rhone
**21** "... long way to run, ___ needle pulling thread..."
**22** Camp sight
**25** Visiting Hollywood's city
**26** "Downton Abbey" actor Peter
**28** Part of an atoll
**29** Be at the head of the class?
**30** Le ___ (Seine city name meaning "the harbour)"
**33** Does a lawn chore
**34** Tooth or back pain
**35** Film about a high school kid with lupine urges
**36** Annual eco-friendly celebration
**38** Make a difference?
**41** Famous fiddling Emperor
**43** Gardening packet item
**45** Window pane holders
**46** Glossy paint variety
**47** Bogart's classic hat
**50** Tassimo's answer to the K-Cup
**51** Ways: Abbr.
**53** Days of ___
**54** Shoppe descriptor, maybe
**55** Stems used in miso soup
**56** Grp. once led by Mueller
**57** Response to a gut punch


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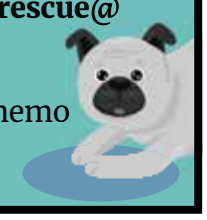



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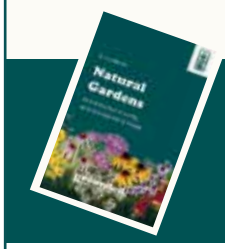

For a free guide to natural gardens in Haliburton County, visit groundedgardens.ca.


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